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Whitehall, May 23.

HIS Majesty being come yesterday into the House of Lords and Seated on His Throne in his Royal Robes, the *Black Rod* was sent to require the immediate attendance of the House of Commons, who being come up, His Majesty made a most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, as follows:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFter it pleased Almighty God to take to his Mercy the late King, my Dearest Brother, and to bring Me to the Peaceable Possession of the Throne of My Ancestors; I immediately Resolved to Call a Parliament, as the best Means to Settle every Thing upon those Foundations that may make my Reign both Easie and Happy to you, towards which I am Disposed to Contribute all that is Fit for Me to do; What I said to My Privy Council at My first Coming there, I am desirous to Renew to you; Wherein I fully Declared My Opinion concerning the Principles of the Church of England, whose Members have shewed themselves so Eminently Loyal in the Worst of Times, In Defence of my Father and Support of My Brother, of Blessed Memory. That I will always take Care to Defend and Support it: I will make it My Endeavour to Preserve this Government both in Church and State, as it is now by Law Established; and as I will never Depart from the Just Rights and Prerogative of the Crown, So I will never Invade any Mans Property; And you may be sure, That having heretofore Ventured My Life in the Defence of this Nation, I shall still Go as far as any Man in Preserving it in all its Just Rights and Liberties. And having Given you this Assurance concerning the Care I will have of your Religion and Property, which I have chosen to do in the same Words I used at My first Coming to the Crown, the better to Evidence to you that I Spoke Them not by chance, and consequently, That you may the more Firmly Rely upon a Promise so Solemnly Made; I cannot Doubt that I shall fail of Suitable Returns from you, with all imaginable Duty and Kindness on your Part, and particularly, In what relates to the Settling of my Revenue, and Continuing it during My Life, as it was in the Time of the King My Brother: I might Use many Arguments to Enforce this Demand, from the Benefit of Trade; The Support of the Navy, The Necessity of the Crown, and the Well being of the Government it self, which I must not suffer to be Precarious; But I am confident, your own Consideration of what is Just and Reasonable, will Suggest to you whatsoever might be Enlarged upon this Occasion. There is one Popular Argument, which I foresee may be used against what I Ask of you, from the Inclination Men may have for frequent Parliaments, which some may think would be the best Secured, by Feeding Me from Time to Time by such Proportions as they shall think convenient; And this Argument, It being the First Time I Speak to you from the Throne, I will answer Once for All: That this would be a very improper Method to Take with Me, and, That the best Way to Engage Me to Meet you Often is, Always to Use Me Well; I Expect therefore, That you will Comply with Me in what I have Desired, and, That you will Do it speedily, That this may be a short Session, and That We may Meet again to all Our Satisfactions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I must aequaint you, That I have had News this Morning from Scotland, *That* Argile *is Landed in the* West High-Lands, *with the Men he brought with him from* Holland, *and that there are two Declarations Published, one in the Name of all those in Arms there, the other in his own; it would be too long for Me to Repeat the Substance of them, it is sufficient to tell you I am Charged with Usurpation and Tyranny: The shorter of them I have Directed to be forthwith Communicated to you; I will take the best Care I can that this Declaration of their own Treason and Rebellion may meet with the Reward it deserves, and I will not doubt but that you all will be the more Zealous to Support the Government, and give Me My Revenue, as I have Desired it without Delay.*

The Commons being returned to their House; The first thing the two Houses did was to resolve to return their most Humble and hearty thanks to His Majesty for his most Gracious Speech and Declaration. And the House of Commons taking into consideration that part of His Majesties Speech which relates to the Revenue, Resolved, *Nemine Contradicente, That the Revenue which was granted to the late King, be setled on his present Majesty for his Life, and that a Bill should be brought in for that purpose.*

In the afternoon the two Houses attended His Majesty in a Body in the Banquetting House at *Whitehall* to return their Thanks to His Majesty.

This day the House of Lords resolved to make the following Address to His Majesty.

His Majesty having graciously imparted to this House, That he is informed that the late Earl of Argile *attainted of Treason, with divers other Rebels are Landed in* Scotland, *and are in Actual Rebellion. It is ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That this House do wait upon His Majesty at five a Clock this afternoon in the Banquetting House at* Whitehall, *to give His Majesty their humble thanks for having imparted the same to this House; And do humbly offer to assist His Majesty with their Lives and Fortunes against the said Rebels and all other his Enemies whatsoever.*

The House of Commons likewise after Reading of *Argile's* Declaration mentioned in his Majesties Speech, Resolved, *Nemine Contradicente, That this House will stand by and assist his Majesty with their Lives and Fortunes against* Archibald Campbel *the pretended Earl of* Argile *and his Adherents, and all Rebels and Traytors and all others whatsoever that shall assist him or any of them. And that this House will in a Body attend his Majesty with this Vote.*

And

And this afternoon the two Houſes accordingly attended his Majeſty ſeverally in the Banquetting Houſe with the ſaid Addreſſes and Votes.

The Bill for ſettling the Revenue on his Majeſty for his Life, was this day Read the firſt time; and is to be Read again on *Monday* next.

Edinburgh, May 9. Yeſterday there paſſed two Acts in Parliament; The one declaring, *That whereas the obſtinacy of the Fanatical Party, notwithſtanding all the Laws formerly made againſt them, do perſevere to keep their Houſe and Field Conventicles; Which are the Nurſeries and Rendevouzes of Rebellion, Therefore his Majeſty with conſent of his Eſtates in Parliament, Doth Statute and Ordain that all ſuch as ſhall hereafter Preach at ſuch Fanatical Houſe or Field Conventicles, as alſo ſuch as ſhall be preſent as Hearers at Field Conventicles, ſhall be puniſhed by death and Confiſcation of their Goods.*

The other declaring, *That the giving or taking of the National Covenant as explained in the year* 1638, *or of the League and Covenant, ſo commonly called, or writing in defence thereof, or owning of them as lawful or obligatory on themſelves or others, ſhall infer the Crime and Pains of Treaſon.*

Edinburgh, May. 13.

This day the Parliament paſſed the following Act.

An Act and Offer of a new Supply to His Majeſty.

THe Eſtates of Parliament calling to mind the many great Bleſſings they have and do enjoy under the protection of the Royal Government, and eſpecially by the many deliverances from the Rebellious Inſurrections and deſigns of Fanatical Traytors, from whom they could expect no leſs than confuſion in Religion, Oppreſſion in their Eſtates, and Cruelty againſt their Perſons and Families; And that the Terror of His Majeſties Forces hath been very inſtrumental for procuring our preſent ſecurity: But conſidering that not only theſe Enemies continue their inveterate hatred againſt King and People, but that their frequent diſappointments have heightned their malice to deſpair; And that the preſent Forces may be too few to undergo all the Fatigue which His Majeſties Service, or the protection of the Country doth require; And to demonſtrate to all Seditious men that this Nation is reſolved to beſtow all they have in the Kings Service, rather than to be expoſed to the leaſt of their Inſults: Do therefore for themſelves and the Nation repreſented by them, make a hearty and dutiful offer to His Majeſty of Two hundred and ſixteen thouſand pounds yearly, payable at two Terms, viz. Whitſonday and Mertimas each year, beginning at Whitſonday next 1685. and ſoforth termly, and that over and beſides the five Months Ceſſe already impoſed on this Kingdom by the third Act of the Parliament 1681. whereby there will be four Months Ceſſe payable at each Term hereafter, beginning at Whitſonday next 1685. And as a farther Evidence of their entire affection to the Sacred Perſon of his preſent Majeſty, they humbly and heartily offer a continuation and prorogation of the ſaid four Months Ceſſe termly from the ſaid Term of Whitſonday 1685. incluſive, during all the Terms of His Majeſties life time, which God Almighty long preſerve, that being the greateſt of our earthly wiſhes, as it is the chief of our Temporal Felicity and Glory.

Edinburgh, May 18. The late Earl of *Argile*, and with him ſome other Rebels having in *Holland* made proviſion of Arms and Ammunition, ſet Sail from the *Vlye* on Saturday the 2d Inſtant in three ſmall Ships. On the 5th he appeared before *Orkney*, where having ſent his Secretary and Chirurgeon on ſhore, they were immediately ſeized by the Inhabitants of that Iſland, and are ſending hither with all diligence to the Privy Council. From thence he Sailed for the Weſt Coaſt of *Scotland*, and arrived the 13th Inſtant at *Dunſtafnage* in *Lorne* (a ruinous Caſtle which formerly did belong to himſelf) and put a Gariſon therein. The Highlanders, and all His Majeſties Forces on the Confines of that Country, are marching with all poſſible diligence for ſuppreſſing theſe Rebels; Who have emitted two Traiterous Declararions, whereof the firſt (a very long one) is entituled thus:

The Declaration and Apology of the Proteſtant People, that is, Of the Noblemen, Barons, Gentlemen, Burgeſſes and Commons of all ſorts now in Arms within the Kingdom of Scotland, *with the Concurrence of the True and Faithful Paſtors, and of ſeveral Gentlemen of the Engliſh Nation joyned with them in the ſame Cauſe*, &c.

BY which *they* impudently and irreligiouſly *ſet forth the Great advantages the Proteſtant Religion both at home and abroad, had by the Succeſs* of the horrid Rebellion *againſt King* Charles *the Firſt, which Succeſs they now* impiouſly *aſcribe to the Bleſſing of God upon the Goodneſs of their Cauſe: They cry up the Loyalty of the Scotch Covenanters*, who after they had delivered up the Father to be barbarouſly and inhumanly Murdered by their Brethren in *England*, had yet admitted of the Son to Reign *upon certain Terms and Conditions* (abſolutely inconſiſtent with Monarchy) by which they pretend to prove that all that was done by his late Majeſty ſince his happy Reſtauration, was *Ungrate, Illegal, Arbitrary, and Tyrannical*; And that all the Oaths impoſed by Law ſince the reſcinding of the Solemn League and Covenant *have been Perjury*, and the Government it ſelf a *continued Apoſtacy*. And they accuſe the Parliaments of both Kingdoms for reſcinding the *pernitious Laws made* during the Rebellion, and thoſe of *Scotland* in particular, for making of Laws by which Proteſtant Blood (as they pretend) is ſhed, whereof they give for inſtance the late Marquis of *Argile* Condemned in Parliament; and alſo for turning out the Nonconformiſt Miniſters; They accuſe the Goverment of putting men to death contrary to Law; and *deſolating the Churches, changing the Ordinances of God to the inventions of men*; conniving at Papiſts; keeping up of ſtanding Forces, which they call the *Bane* of Civil Government; They declare againſt the Kings *Supremacy*; And all the Wars againſt the States General of the United Provinces. The Execution of thoſe Miſcreants, who make it their Profeſſion and Practice to Murder Loyal Subjects upon the pretence of Religion; and the Torture of *Spence* and *Carſtares*, by whom was made ſo great a diſcovery of the late horrid Conſpiracy; As alſo the Forfeiture of the late Earl of *Argile*. They likewiſe declare againſt the Enquiries that were made into the Rebellion at *Bothwel* Bridge by the late Circuit Courts, all which (ſo neceſſary for the Peace and quiet of theſe Kingdoms) they call *Tyranny and Popery twiſted together*. They declare againſt his preſent Majeſty, (*whom they call James Duke of York*) his Aſcention to the Throne, as being *Excluded from it by the Commons of England*. They declare likewiſe againſt the preſent *Houſe of Commons as Packed and Caballed and returned by Fraud and Injuſtice*. For all which pretended reaſons they declare that they totally

totally *throw off all Bonds of subjection* and do take up Arms against his present Majesty (whom they still call *James Duke of York*) and all his Accomplices, stiling them their most *unnatural and wicked Enemies*; for these pretended ends. First, *The restoring and setling what they call the Protestant Religion.* Secondly, *The Suppression and perpetual Exclusion of Popery, and its bitter Root and Spring*, Prelacy. Thirdly, *The restoring of all who have been Sufferers upon the account of adherence to their Party, for the pulling down of this present Government and setting up another suitable to their designs; And they declare that they never will enter into any Capitulation, Treaty, or Conditions with the King, but on the contrary prosecute the War with all reality, constancy and vigor, until they shall attain their ends; and that they will assist and maintain one another, especially their Brethren in* England *and* Ireland, *who shall pursue the same ends.* And lastly they promise Indemnity to those who have been formerly their Enemies, upon their sincere repentance joyning with them and vigorously assisting them against a *Persecuting Tyrant and an Apostate Party*, for so they call his Majesty and his Loyal Subjects, ending their Declaration with great Promises of Assistance from God to their Party and of Confusion to their Enemies. This being the substance of their long and Canting Declaration, the other lesser is here set down at length.

The Declaration of Archibald *Earl of* Argyle, *Lord* Kintyre, Cowall, Campbel *and* Lorn, *Heritable Sheriff and Lieutenant of the Shires of* Argile *and* Turbett, *and Heritable Justice General of the said Shires, and of the West Isles, and others.*

With his Order to his Vassals and others in the said Shires, and under his Jurisdiction, to Concur for Defence of their Religion, Lives and Liberties.

I Shall not mention my Case published in Print in Latine and in Dutch, and more largely in English, nor mean I to repeat the Printed Declaration emitted by several Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others of both Nations now in Arms but because the Sufferings of me and my Family are therein mentioned, I have thought it fit for me to declare for my self; That as I go to Arms with those who have appointed me to Conduct them, for no private, nor personal end; and only for those contained in the said Declaration, which I have concerted with them, and approve of, so I do claim no interest, but what I had before the pretended Forfeiture of my Family', and have sufficient right to.

And that I do freely, (and as a Christian) forgive all Personal Injuries against my Person or Family to all that shall not oppose, but Join and Concur with us in our present Undertaking, for the ends mentioned in the said Declaration. And hereby I oblidge me never to pursue them in Judgement, nor out of Judgment; And I do further declare, That obtaining the peaceable and quiet Possession of what belonged to my Father and my self before our pretended Forfeitures, I shall satisfie all Debts due by my Father and my self, as any Heir or Debitor can be obliged.

And as my Faithfulness to his late Majesty and his Government, hath sufficiently appeared to all unbiassed Persons void of Malice, so I do with Grief acknowledge my former too much complying with and conniving at the methods that have been taken to bring us to the sad condition we are now in, though God knows never concurring in the design.

I have now with Gods strength suffered patiently my unjust Sentence and Banishment three years and a half, and have never offered to make any Uproar or defence by Arms, to disturb the Peace upon my private Concern; But the King being now Dead, and the Duke of *York* having taken off his Mask, and having abandoned and invaded our Religion and Liberties, Resolving to enter into the Government and Exercise it contrary to Law, I think it not only Just, but my Duty to God and my Country, to use my outmost endeavors to oppose and repress his Usurpations and Tyranny.

And therefore being assisted and furnished very nobly by several good Protestants, and invited and accompanied by several of both Nations to lead them, I resolve, as God shall enable me, to use their assistance of all kinds, towards the ends expresst in the said Declaration.

And I do hereby earnestly invite and obteste all honest Protestants, and particularly all my Friends and Blood Relations, to concur with us in the said Declaration; And as I have written several Letters, so having no other way fully to intimate my mind otherwise, I do hereby require all my Vassals any where, and all within my several Jurisdictions, with their Fencible Men within their Command, to go to Arms, and to join and concur with us according to the said Declaration, as they will be answerable at their peril; And that they obey the particular Orders they shall receive from me from time to time.

Whitehal, May 22. A very Loyal Address hath been presented to his Majesty from the Bishop and Clergy within the Dioceſs of St. *David.* Which his Majesty received very graciously.

There have been likewise presented to his Majesty very Loyal Addresses, From the High Sheriff, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen and Freeholders of the County of *Longford* in *Ireland.* From the Bishop and Clergy of the Dioceſs of *Fernes* and *Leighlin.* From the High Sheriff, Justices, Grand Jury, Gentlemen and Freeholders of the County of *Roscommon.* From the Soveraign Burgesses and Commonalty of *Killmallocke* in the County of *Limerick.* From the High Sheriff, Grand Jury, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen and Freeholders of the Queens County. From the Grand Jury, High Sheriff, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen and Freeholders of the County of *Wexford.* From Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, Burgesses and Commonalty of the Town of *Carrickfergus.* From the Justices of the Peace and other Gentlemen of the Grand Jury for the County of *Londonderry.* From the Gentlemen and Freeholders of the County of *Galway.* From the Bishop and Clergy of the Dioceſs of *Meath.* From the High Sheriff, Grand Jury, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen and Freeholders of the County of *Waterford.* From the Soveraign Burgesses, and Freemen of the Corporation